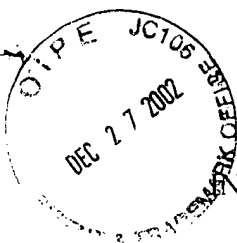


1631



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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Wonderling, Ramani S.
Boroughs, Karen L.

Serial No.: 09/917,265

Filed: July 27, 2001

Atty. File No.: IM-5

For: "CANINE AND FELINE PROTEINS,
NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES AND
USES THEREOF"

) Group Art Unit: 1631
)
) Examiner: James Martinell
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT

#7/A
Plunkett
1/7/02

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231, THIS <u>19</u> DAY OF DECEMBER 2002.
HESKA CORPORATION
By: <u>Susan A. Gordon</u> Susan A. Gordon

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This response is directed to the Restriction Requirement mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 25, 2002. Prior to the Examiner's review of the claims of the above-referenced Application, please enter the following amendments.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 17-20 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please amend claims 1-16 as follows:

AP

1. (Once amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
 - (i) a nucleic acid molecule comprising
 - (1) an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:29, and a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 44 contiguous nucleotides identical in sequence to at least 44